

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: US, UN, PFOR, OCON

SUBJECT: UN CHARTER REVIEW

REF: USUN 672

1. CHARTER REVIEW COMITE MET IN PLENARY AM MARCH 8 TO DISCUSS AGAIN ANNEXATION OF L/12 ("MEXICAN LIST") TO COMITE REPORT. SPAIN BEGAN BY ARGUING THAT ANNEXATION OF L/12 IS NOT CONTRARY TO COMITE MANDATE. FRANCE STRESSED STRANGE PROCEDURE USED BY CO-SPONSORS OF L/12 IN THAT THEY SAID, IN A SPECIAL PLENARY, THAT L/12 CONTAINED NOTHING NEW AND THAT THERE WAS NO NEED TO DISCUSS THIS DOCUMENT THIS YEAR; THEN THEY ASKED FOR ANNEXATION. FRENCH DEL SAID THAT THUS L/12 SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN INTRODUCED ONLY FOR ANNEXATION; THIS CAN ONLY MISLEAD GA INTO THINKING COMITE HAS DONE SOMETHING THAT IT HASN'T. MOREOVER, THE LISTING OF CO-SPONSORS ONLY FOR ONE PART OF THREE-PART DOCUMENT SEEMS TO VIOLATE NORMAL UN PROCEDURES.

2. CHINA SUPPORTED ANNEXATION. CHPRUS SUGGESTED THAT COMPROMISE COULD BE REACHED BY ANNEXING ONLY PART I WHICH RELATES TO PROPOSALS THAT DO NOT REQUIRE CHARTER CHANGES. POLAND QUESTIONED WHY CO-SPONSORS OF L/12 HAD EMBARRASSED ON METHOD OF WORK WHICH IGNORED CONSULTATION AND NEGOTIATION, AND WHY THEY HAD PUT CHAIRMAN INTO DIFFICULT POSITION BY ASKING

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FOR A RULING FROM THE CHAIR. POLISH DEL SUGGESTED THAT COMITE REPORT MENTION THAT L/12 HAS BEEN SUBMITTED TO COMITE.

3. KENYA SUPPORTED ANNEXATION, SAYING THAT L/12 DOES NOT PRECLUDE ADDITIONAL PROPOSALS, BUT ONLY COMPILES AND CONFIRMS PROPOSALS WHICH HAD BEEN MADE. EL SALVADOR SPOKE IN FAVOR OF ANNEXATION, AS DID NIGERIA, ALGERIA, ITALY, SIERRA LEONE,

BRAZIL, ROMANIA, SPAIN, TURKEY AND ECUADOR. FRG DEL RECOGNIZED VALIDITY OF QUESTION RAISED REGARDING L/12 AND SAID, WHILE HIS DELEGATION WOULD NOT VOTE AGAINST ANNEXATION, THEY HOPEFUL THAT COMPROMISE COULD BE REACHED WITHOUT VOTE. BELGIUM OPPOSED ANNEXATION, AS DID GDR AND USSR.

4. US SAID ARGUMENT FOR ANNEXING ONE OF THE MANY DOCUMENTS OF THE COMITE ISSUED IN THE "L" SERIES WAS UNPERSUASIVE AND RISKED MISLEADING GA. SAID NO ONE TRYING TO PREVENT ANYONE FROM EXPRESSING OR RECORDING THEIR VIEWS AND SUGGESTED INFORMAL NEGOTIATIONS TO RESOLVE PROBLEM OF HOW BEST TO HANDLE MATTER ON FAIR AND ACCURATE BASIS ALL COULD ACCEPT.

5. CHAIRMAN BROMS THEN DELIVERED BITING INTERVENTION CONCERNING CALL BY SOME DELEGATIONS FOR RULING FROM THE CHAIR TO ANNEX L/12. HE SAID THAT ANNEXATION IS CLEARLY ISSUE THAT MUST BE DECIDED BY THE COMITE, AND THAT IF HE MADE A RULING HE WOULD BE EXCEEDING HIS POWERS. HE SAID THAT HE COULDN'T APPROVE OF SUCH A MANEUVER, AND THEN CHARGED THAT "ONE OF THE SPOKESMEN FOR THE CO-SPONSORS" HAD APPROACHED HIM THE PREVIOUS DAY AND TOLD HIM THAT IF HIS RULING DIDN'T COMPLY WITH THE WISHES OF THE CO-SPONSORS, THEY WOULD CHALLENGE THE RULING IN COMITE AND OVERTURN IT. BROMS SAID HE COULD ONLY TERM THIS APPROACH A THREAT AND STATED THAT HE WAS SHOCKED THAT SUCH A STATEMENT WOULD COME FROM THE REPRESENTATIVE OF A COUNTRY WITH WHICH HE (BROMS) HAD WORKED AND CO-OPERATED WITH FOR MANY YEARS IN THE UN. HE NOTED THAT COMITE HAD NEVER TAKEN A VOTE AND EXPRESSED HOPE THAT COMPROMISE COULD AGAIN BE REACHED

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IN THIS CASE.

6. WORKING GROUP MET PM MARCH 8 AND QUICKLY APPROVED FIRST SECTION OF REPORT TO COMITE. WORKING GROUP WILL MEET AFTERNOONS OF MARCH 9 AND 10 TO COMPLETE REPORT, WHICH WILL BE PRESENTED IN FINAL PLENARY MORNING OF MARCH 11. COMMENT: FOLLOWING BROMS' DRAMATIC OUTBURST CONCERNING ACTIONS OF MEXICAN DEL (BASSOLS), IT BEGAN TO SEEM LIKELY THAT COMPROMISE MIGHT BE POSSIBLE ON BASIS EQUAL TREATMENT FOR ALL DOCUMENTS IN THE "L" SERIES.

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